AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 – 11. (canceled)

12. (previously presented): A method for sample preparation comprising:
obtaining a sample comprising a first type of cells and a second type of cells, wherein the first type of cells is at least twice as susceptible to a lysis agent as the second type of cells; and
applying the lysis agent to break the first type of cells; wherein the first type of cells are animal cells and the second type of cells are plant cells.

13. (previously presented): A method for sample preparation comprising:
obtaining a sample comprising a first type of cells and a second type of cells, wherein the first type of cells is at least twice as susceptible to a lysis agent as the second type of cells; and
applying the lysis agent to break the first type of cells; wherein the first type of cells are animal cells and the second type of cells are fungi cells.

14. (previously presented): A method for sample preparation comprising:

obtaining a sample comprising a first type of cells and a second type of cells, wherein the first type of cells is at least twice as susceptible to a lysis agent as the second type of cells; and

applying the lysis agent to break the first type of cells;

wherein the first type of cells are gram negative bacteria and the second type of cells are gram positive bacteria.

15. (previously presented): The method of Claim 14 wherein the lysing agent is a relatively mild lysosome digesting agent followed by a cell membrane lysis agent with the conditions that is sufficient for digesting gram negative bacteria and not sufficient for digesting gram positive bacteria.

16. (previously presented): A method for sample preparation comprising:

obtaining a sample comprising a first type of cells and a second type of cells, wherein the first type of cells is at least twice as susceptible to a lysis agent as the second type of cells; and

applying the lysis agent to break the first type of cells; wherein the first type of cells are yeast cells and the second type of cells are bacteria or plant cells.

17. (original): The method of Claim 16 wherein the lysis agent is a zymolase, glucalase or lyticase digestion followed by a cell membrane lysis agent.

18 – 30. (canceled)

31. (currently amended): A method for detecting nucleic acids comprising:

obtaining a sample comprising a first type of cells and a second type of cells, wherein the first type of cells is at least twice as susceptible to a lysis agent as the second type of cells;

applying the lysis agent to break the first type of cells;

removing at least 60% of the second type of cells to obtain an isolate;

preparing a nucleic acid sample from the isolate and hybridizing the nucleic acid sample to a plurality of at least 1000 different nucleic acid probes;

wherein each of the different probes is immobilized on a bead or optical fibre.

32-34. (canceled)

35. (previously presented): The method of Claim 31 wherein the first type of cells are animal cells and the second type of cells are plant cells.

36. (previously presented): The method of Claim 31 wherein the first type of cells are animal cells and the second type of cells are fungi cells.

37. (previously presented): The method of Claim 31 wherein the first type of cells are gram negative bacteria and the second type of cells are gram positive bacteria.

38. (original): The method of Claim 37 wherein the lysing agent is a relatively mild lysosome digestion followed by a cell membrane lysis agent with the conditions

that is sufficient for digesting gram negative bacteria and not sufficient for digesting gram positive bacteria.

39. (previously presented): The method of Claim 31 wherein the first type of cells are yeast cells and the second type of cells are bacteria or plant cells.

40. (original): The method of Claim 39 wherein the lysis agent is a zymolase, glucalase or lyticase digestion followed by a cell membrane lysis agent.

41 – 66. (canceled)